LECTURE I GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY

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The Ichabod Spencer Lectures Delibered at Union College 1911

CHAPTERS FROM MODERN PSYCHOLOGY

JAMES R. ANGELL

Through the generosity of Mrs. Katherine Spencer Leavitt a foundation has been established upon which eight lectures in Psychology are to be delivered each year at Union College.

This lectureship is endowed in memory of her father, the Rev. Ichabod Spencer, D.D., a graduate of Union College, of the class of 1823, and is to be known as the Ichabod Spencer Lectureship in Psychology.

CHAPTERS FROM MODERN PSYCHOLOGY

\mathbf{BY}

JAMES ROWLAND ANGELL

HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY IN THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO



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PREFACE

HE present volume contains the first series of lectures delivered upon the Ichabod Spencer Foundation at Union College, during the early part of the year 1911.

It was the desire of the founder, Mrs. William Leavitt, to do honor to the memory of her father, the Rev. Ichabod Spencer, D.D., of the class of 1821 at Union College. She wished also to encourage the study of a branch of knowledge in which he was deeply interested and well skilled. It was specified, therefore, that the lectures should deal primarily with psychological subjects.

It seemed to the author, who was honored by selection for this agreeable task, that the opening course might properly deal in an introductory manner with the main characteristics of the contemporary situation in psychology, leaving to subsequent lecturers the more intensive consideration of one or

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PREFACE

another of the problems now engaging the attention of specialists. He has carried out this plan as completely as he could within the limits of the eight lectures of the series.

The material was arranged for presentation to a general college audience, and has, therefore, been freed as far as possible from the technicalities of scientific terminology. The attempt has been made to convey a just and comprehensive impression of the principal features of the psychology of to-day; but much selection among topics has been necessary, and this has been guided by a purpose to avoid the more abstruse aspects of the subject which are somewhat remote from the usual interests of the layman.

J. R. A.

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